

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 06910 141357Z

47

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07

FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-04 L-03 SP-02

AID-05 NSC-05 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01

CEA-01 /070 W

----- 097378

R 141250Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2629

USDOC

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

UNCLAS JIDDA 6910

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EALR, EWWT, KU

SUBJECT: KUWAIT PORT DEVELOPMENTS: TEMPORARY CONGESTION PROBLEMS?

REFS: KUWAIT 3570; KUWAIT 4106; JIDDA A-73

1. EMBASSY DISMAYED TO LEARN OF WORSENING SITUATION IN KUWAIT PORT AS WE HAD ADVISED USDOC TO CONSIDER KUWAIT AS PORT FOR SHIPPING GOODS TO PROPOSED APRIL 1976 U.S. BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TRADE FAIR IN RIYADH.

2. WE FEAR THAT CONGESTION IN KUWAIT MAY BE DUE TO FACTORS BEYOND SEASONAL NORMS, I.E., RAMADAN AND SUMMER HEAT, AND THUS MAY RESULT IN LONGER TERM PROBLEM. JIDDA PORT AS WELL AS DAMMAM PORT HAVE WITNESSED AN ALARMING RISE IN CONGESTION AND PROJECTIONS INDICATE THAT INCREASED IMPORT DEMAND WILL CONTINUE TO TAX PORT AUTHORITIES AND PRESSURE THEM TO IMPROVE AND EXPAND PORT FACILITIES WHILE DEVISING MORE EFFICIENT HANDLING PROCEDURES. DAMMAM NOW HAS OVER 100 SHIPS WAITING FOR BERTHING, WHILE JIDDA

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HAD 167 AS OF OCTOBER 12. THE SPILL-OVER FROM THIS

CONGESTION TO KUWAIT IS INEVITABLE. OVERLAND TRUCKING
FROM EUROPE ALSO EXPANDING.

3. EMBASSY JIDDA REQUESTS THAT IT BE KEPT ADVISED OF
PORT SITUATION IN KUWAIT AS TIME FACTOR BECOMES CRITICAL
FOR PROPOSED TRADE FAIR. IN ADDITION, EMBOFFS HAVE BEEN
RECOMMENDING THAT U.S. EXPORTERS TO SAUDI ARABIA CONSIDER
EITHER SHIPPING TO ROTTERDAM AND USING OVERLAND ROUTE OR
SHIPPING TO KUWAIT AND OTHER GULF PORTS AND TRUCKING OVER-
LAND. IF LATTER OPTION IS NO LONGER ATTRACTIVE, WE SUGGEST
USDOC ADVISE U.S. EXPORTERS URGENTLY OF THE SITUATION TO
ENABLE THEM TO FORMULATE PROPER CF AND CIF QUOTATIONS.
AKINS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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